

REMARKS

Claim 12 has been canceled. The limitations of Claim 12 have been included in Claim 11.

The amendment of Claim 11 is further supported at page 3, line 21 and at page 4, lines 1-2 and 8-9 of the specification.

New Claim 21 is supported at page 3, lines 23-24 of the specification.

No new matter is believed to have been added by entry of this amendment. Entry and favorable reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this amendment Claims 11, 13-21 will now be active in this application.

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Sastri for the helpful and courteous discussion with Applicants' Representative on April 2, 2009. The claims as amended were discussed.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application, as amended, in view of the following remarks.

The rejection of Claims 11, 14-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Patella and the rejection of Claims 11, 13-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Mudge are obviated by the amendment of Claim 11. The limitations of Claim 12 (not rejected over Patella and Mudge) are included in Claim 11 thereby obviating these rejections.

The rejection of Claims 11-16 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Frazee is respectfully traversed.

The present invention as set forth in amended Claim 11 relates to an adhesive, comprising:

a polymer obtained by free-radical addition polymerization of ethylenically unsaturated monomers and synthesized from

(a) at least 60% by weight of principal monomers selected from the group consisting of C1 to C20 alkyl (meth)acrylates, and

(b) more than 1% by weight of a monomer containing at least two nonconjugated polymerizable vinyl groups selected from the group consisting of alkanediol diacrylates, alkanediol dimethacrylates and mixtures thereof; and

wherein said polymer comprises hydrophilic groups selected from the group consisting of carboxyl groups, hydroxyl groups, carboxamide groups and mixtures thereof.

Frazee does not disclose an adhesive as claimed, having alkanediol di(meth)acrylates. Further, the tetraethylene glycol diacrylate (TEGDA) mentioned by Frazee is distinguished from alkanediol di(meth)acrylates, which are mono-alkanediol compounds but not poly-alkylene glycol compounds as those of Frazee.

See also new Claim 21.

Therefore, the rejection of Claims 11-16 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Frazee should be withdrawn.

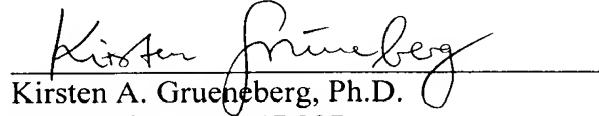
Newly cited US 3,400,103 (see the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith) does not disclose polymers with a combination of alkanediol di(meth)acrylates and hydrophilic groups. Thus, the claims should not be rejected over this reference.

This application presents allowable subject matter, and the Examiner is kindly requested to pass it to issue. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the claims or

otherwise wish to discuss this case, he is kindly invited to contact Applicants' below-signed representative, who would be happy to provide any assistance deemed necessary in speeding this application to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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